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Tami M. Procopid

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Mary FARIS, et al.

Serial No.:

09/881,636

Filing Date:

13 June 2001

For:

55P4H4: GENE EXPRESSED IN

VARIOUS CANCERS

Examiner: Misook Yu, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit: 1642

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -EXAMINING GROUP 1642

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

OCT 2 2 2003

ECH CENTER 1600/2900

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein, mailed 13 June 2003, time for response to which was set to expire 13 September 2003. A petition for an extension of time of one (1) month until 13 October 2003 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. Claims 63, 73 and 74 were rejected and claims 70-72 were objected to. The rejection was made final. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment is proposed in response. Applicants appreciate the helpfulness of Examiner Yu in response to a telephone call from the undersigned, early in September of this year, requesting clarification of the rejection, although the basis for the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, remains unclear, as set forth hereinbelow. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.